

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ISLAMA 10317 011221Z

64

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

----- 072178

R 011140Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7425

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 10317

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PK, AF

SUBJECT: MILITARY BUILD UP IN AFGHANISTAN - AIDE MEMOIRE

1. AGHA SHAHI ASKED TO SEE ATHERTON AFTER THE MEETING BETWEEN THE SECRETARY AND BHUTTO CONCLUDED. HE PRESENTED ATHERTON WITH TWO AIDE MEMOIRES. ONE WAS ON THE SUBJECT OF MILITARY BUILD-UP IN AFGHANISTAN, THE TEXT OF WHICH WILL BE INCLUDED HEREIN. THE OTHER WAS ON THE SUBJECT OF POSSIBLE PAK PURCHASE OF RADAR EQUIPMENT, ON WHICH THERE SEEMS TO BE NOTHING MORE THAN ADMINISTRATIVE BOTTLENECK TO BE HANDLED IN WASHINGTON. A COPY OF THE LATTER DOCUMENT, NOT YET AVAILABLE TO THE EMBASSY, BUT IS TO BE PROVIDED BY THE FOREIGN OFFICE SHORTLY. ON THE SUBJECT OF SOVIET MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO AFGHANISTAN, WE WERE FURNISHED THIS MORNING WITH A FAR MORE DETAILED LIST OF EQUIPMENT WHICH TOTALS UP TO THE FIGURES IN THE FOLLOWING TEXT OF THE AIDE MEMOIRE BY POUCH. TEXT OF AIDE MEMOIRE FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: SUBJECT: MILITARY BUILD-UP IN AFGHANISTAN

WITH INCREASING SOVIET ASSISTANCE, AFGHANISTAN IS CONTINUING ITS MILITARY BUILD UP CLOSE TO PAKISTAN'S BORDERS. ALTHOUGH THE DELIVERY SCHEDULE IS NOT YET KNOWN, ACCORDING TO RELIABLE INFORMATION, THE SOVIET UNION HAS AGREED TO PROVIDE AFGHANISTAN A MASSIVE SUPPLY OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION. THE LIST INCLUDES 1,170 TANKS, MOSTLY T-62'S, T-54'S, T-55'S AND BRIDGE-LAYING TANKS; OVER 6,000 PIECES OF ARTILLERY, INCLUDING 500 EACH OF SAM-7 AND SAM-2 MISSILES; LARGE NUMBERS OF TRANSPORT VEHICLES,

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ISLAMA 10317 011221Z

INFANTRY EQUIPMENT, RADAR, 40 EACH MIG-21 AND MIG-17

AIRCRAFT, 50 HELICOPTERS, ETC.

SOVIET EXPERTS ARE EXTENSIVELY REORGANIZING AFGHAN ARMED FORCES AND PROVIDING TRAINING FACILITIES. 270 AFGHAN OFFICERS RECENTLY LEFT FOR TRAINING IN THE USSR AND ANOTHER 250 FOR TRAINING IN INDIA. AFGHANISTAN HAS INCREASED ITS FORCE LEVEL FROM 13 DIVISIONS TO THE EQUIVALENT OF 16 DIVISIONS. EACH CORPS IS BEING PROVIDED A MECHANIZED BRIGADE AND A TANK BATTALION.

IN THE JALALABAD SECTOR ACROSS THE KHYBER PASS, THE STRENGTH OF AFGHAN ARMY HAS BEEN INCREASED FROM ONE INFANTRY DIVISION AND ONE MOUNTAIN BRIGADE TO ONE INFANTRY DIVISION WITH INTEGRAL TANK BATTALION, ONE MOUNTAIN BRIGADE, 2 TANK BATTALIONS AND ONE INFANTRY BRIGADE. AFGHANISTAN IS IN THE PROCESS OF COMPLETING THE PLANNED JALALABAD CORPS WHICH IS TO HAVE 2 INFANTRY DIVISIONS, INCLUDING ONE MOUNTAIN DIVISION, AND AN ARMoured DIVISION OF THREE TANK BATTALIONS.

IN THE GARDEZ-MATUN SECTOR FACING BANNU, A TANK BATTALION AND AN ARMoured BRIGADE HAVE BEEN MOVED TO REINFORCE THIS SECTOR WHICH ALREADY HAD TWO INFANTRY DIVISIONS AND ONE MOUNTAIN BRIGADE.

IN THE KANDHAR SECTOR, THE 7 ARMoured DIVISION HAS BEEN RE-SHUFFLED AND IN PLACE OF TWO TANK BATTALIONS MOVED OUT, 3 NEW TANK BATTALIONS HAVE BEEN MOVED IN. IN ADDITION, ONE MECHANIZED BRIGADE, ONE ARTILLERY BRIGADE, ONE AA BRIGADE AND ONE MOUNTAIN BRIGADE HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE EXISTING STRENGTH OF ONE INFANTRY DIVISION, ONE ARMoured DIVISION AND ONE MOUNTAIN BRIGADE.

MOREOVER, KANDHAR AIRFIELD HAS BEEN ACTIVATED AS AN AIR BASE, PRESENTLY HOLDING 2 SQUADRONS OF MIG-17 AIRCRAFT. END QUOTE.

2. ATHERTON ASKED THAT WE CABLE BOTH AIDE MEMOIRES TO THE DEPARTMENT TO BE BROUGHT TO HIS ATTENTION AFTER HIS RETURN THERE.
BYROADE

NOTE BY OCT: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER MR. TWOHIE S/S-O.
SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY BUILDUP
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: smithrj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ISLAMA10317
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740313-0692
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741180/aaaacpsw.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: smithrj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Aug-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <07 MAR 2003 by smithrj>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MILITARY BUILD UP IN AFGHANISTAN - AIDE MEMOIRE
TAGS: PFOR, PK, AF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005